

ORDINANCE NO. 4

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING THE 2012 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE AND ADOPTING THE 2018 EDITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE WITH AMENDMENTS THERETO

WHEREAS, in 2015 the Board of County Commissioners adopted the International Fire Code, 2012 Edition, as Ordinance No. 4; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to § 30-15-401.5(2), C.R.S., the Community and Economic Development Department, the Adams County Fire Code Adoption and Revision Commission, and the Adams County Board of Fire Code Appeals has recommended that the Board of County Commissioners adopt the 2018 edition of the International Fire Code, with certain amendments; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is authorized under § 30-15-401.5, et seq., C.R.S., to adopt an ordinance for the provision of fire safety standards; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to §30-28-201, C.R.S., the 2018 edition of the International Fire Code is consistent with the 1988 edition of the Uniform Building Codes, as promulgated by the International Conference of Building Officials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Board of County Commissioners, County of Adams, State of Colorado, that the 2012 edition of the International Fire Code be repealed and Ordinance No. 4, the 2018 edition of the International Fire Code, with certain amendments thereto, the full text of which is available at the Adams County Building Safety Division, and which is fully incorporated herein by this reference, be enacted and adopted.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners, County of Adams, State of Colorado, that:

Section 1. ADOPTION

The Board of County Commissioners of Adams County hereby adopts, by reference, the International Fire Code, 2018 edition, with amendments as described in Section 5, and including the following appendices: Appendix B, Fire-Flow Requirements for Buildings; Appendix C, Fire Hydrant Locations and Distribution; Appendix D, Fire Apparatus Access Roads; Appendix E, Hazard Categories; Appendix F, Hazard Ranking; and Appendix N, Indoor Trade Shows and Exhibitions.

Section 2. CODE DESCRIBED

The International Fire Code, 2018 edition, is published by the International Code Council, 4051 Flossmoor Road, Country Club Hills, IL 60478

Section 3. APPLICABILITY

Pursuant to § 30-28-201, et seq., C.R.S., this Ordinance shall apply to all of the unincorporated areas of Adams County and shall not be embraced within the limits of any incorporated city or town. The provisions of this Ordinance shall not overrule or otherwise restrict the authority of the Board of County Commissioners or any other applicable official of Adams County in authorizing land uses or otherwise acting under the authority of any other adopted codes or regulations of Adams County or enforcing the provisions thereof.

Section 4. BOARD OF APPEALS

The "Board of Appeals," as described in Section 109 of the International Fire Code, 2018 edition, shall be the Adams County Board of Fire Code Appeals as appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. Whenever the fire code official disapproves an application or refuses to grant a permit applied for, or when it is claimed that the intent of the Code has been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of the Code do not fully apply, or an equivalent method of protection or safety is proposed, the applicant may appeal the decision of the fire code official to the Adams County Board of Fire Code Appeals within thirty days from the date the decision being appealed was made.

Section 5. AMENDMENTS

Any portion not listed as amended is adopted as written

(a) CHAPTER 1 SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the Fire Code of Adams County ~~[NAME OF JURISDICTION]~~, hereinafter referred to as "this code."

102.5 Application of residential code. Where structures are designed and constructed in accordance with the International Residential Code, the provisions of this code shall apply as follows:

~~1. Construction and design provisions of this code pertaining to the exterior of the structure shall apply including, but not limited to, premises identification, fire apparatus access and water supplies. Where interior or exterior systems or devices are installed, construction permits required by Section 105.7 shall apply.~~

1. Construction and design provisions: Provisions of this code pertaining to the exterior of the structure shall apply including, but not limited to, premises identification, fire apparatus access, and water supplies. Where this code addresses fire sprinklers in residential occupancies, it refers to residential occupancies constructed pursuant to both the International Building Code and the International Residential Code. Construction permit requirements for systems and equipment utilized in the interior or exterior of the structure shall also apply.

EXCEPTION: Dwelling unit fire sprinkler systems, or portions thereof, installed in accordance with Section P2904 of the 2018 International Residential Code do not require a permit. Dwelling unit fire sprinkler systems, or portions thereof, installed in accordance with NFPA 13D require a permit pursuant to Section 105.7.1 of this code.

2. Administrative, operational and maintenance provisions of this code shall apply.

References in this code to Group R-3 or U occupancies or one and two family dwellings shall apply to structures under the scope of the International Residential Code where appropriate.

105.4.1 Submittals. *Construction documents* and supporting data shall be submitted in ~~two~~ one or more sets with each application for a permit and in such form and detail as required by the *fire code official*. The *construction documents* shall be prepared by a registered design professional ~~where required by the statutes of the jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed.~~ where documents are submitted in support of an application for a construction permit required by Sections 105.7.1, 105.7.4, 105.7.7, 105.7.8, 105.7.11, 105.7.13, 105.7.20, 105.7.24, and 105.7.26. When requested, qualification statements shall be submitted to the fire code official for the registered design professional to demonstrate compliance with the professional qualifications requirements set forth in Section 202.

Exception: The *fire code official* is authorized to waive the submission of *construction documents* and supporting data not required to be prepared by a registered design professional if it is found that the nature of the work applied for is such that review of *construction documents* is not necessary to obtain compliance with this code.

105.6.47 Temporary membrane structures and tents. An operational permit is required to operate an air-supported temporary membrane structure, a temporary *special event structure* or a tent having an area in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

Exceptions:

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Tents open on all sides, which comply with all of the following:
 - 2.1. Individual tents having a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²).
 - 2.2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) shall not exceed 700 square feet (65 m²) total.
 - 2.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other tents shall be provided.

[3. Temporary special event structures having a maximum size of 700 square feet \(65 m²\).](#)

105.7.7 Fire alarm and detection systems and related equipment. A construction permit is required for installation of or modification to fire alarm and detection systems and related equipment, [including emergency alarm systems \(Section 908\) and smoke control systems \(Section 909\).](#) Maintenance performed in accordance with this code is not considered to be a modification and does not require a construction permit.

105.7.25 Temporary membrane structures and tents. A construction permit is required to erect an air-supported temporary membrane structure, a temporary stage canopy or a tent having an area in excess of 400 square feet (37 m²).

Exceptions:

1. Tents used exclusively for recreational camping purposes.
2. Funeral tents and curtains, or extensions attached thereto, when used for funeral services.
3. Tents and awnings open on all sides, which comply with all of the following:
 - 3.1. Individual tents shall have a maximum size of 700 square feet (65 m²).
 - 3.2. The aggregate area of multiple tents placed side by side without a fire break clearance of not less than 12 feet (3658 mm) shall not exceed 700 square feet (65m²) total.
 - 3.3. A minimum clearance of 12 feet (3658 mm) to structures and other tents shall be maintained.

[4. Temporary special event structures having a maximum size of 700 square feet \(65 m²\).](#)

105.7.26 Explosion control. [A construction permit is required to install or modify explosion control provided as required in Section 911.](#)

110.4 Violation penalties. Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire code official, or of a permit or certificate used under provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a ~~[SPECIFY OFFENSE]~~ class 2 petty offense, punishable by a fine of not more than ~~[AMOUNT]~~ one thousand dollars (\$1,000) ~~or by imprisonment not exceeding [NUMBER OF DAYS], or both such fine and imprisonment.~~ Each day that a violation continues after due notice has been served shall be deemed a separate offense.

112.4 Failure to comply. Any person who shall continue any work after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be liable to a fine of not less than ~~[AMOUNT]~~ one thousand dollars (\$1,000). ~~or more than [AMOUNT].~~

(b) **CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS**

~~REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL. An architect or engineer, registered or licensed to practice professional architecture or engineering, as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional registration laws of the state in which the project is to be constructed.~~

REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL. An engineer, licensed to practice professional engineering, as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional licensure laws of the State of Colorado, who shall be responsible and accountable to possess the required knowledge and skills to perform design, analysis, and verification in accordance with provisions of this code and applicable professional standards of practice.

(c) **CHAPTER 3 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

311.5 Placards. Any vacant or abandoned buildings or structure determined to be unsafe pursuant to Section 110 of this code relating to structural or interior hazards ~~shall~~ may be marked as specified in Sections 311.5.1 through 311.5.5.

(d) **CHAPTER 5 FIRE SERVICE FEATURES**

503.2.1 Dimensions. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than ~~20 feet (6096 mm)~~ twenty-four feet (7315 mm), exclusive of shoulders, except for approved security gates in accordance with Section 503.6, and an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13 feet 6 inches (4115 mm).

Exception: Fire apparatus access roads serving rural residential development shall be allowed to be not less than twenty (20) feet in unobstructed width when approved by the fire code official.

503.2.2 Authority. The fire code official shall have the authority to require ~~or permit modifications to the required access~~ an increase in the minimum access widths and vertical clearances where they are inadequate for fire or rescue operations. The fire code official shall have the authority to reduce minimum access widths and vertical clearances based on the fire department's apparatus. ~~or where necessary to meet the public safety objectives of the jurisdiction.~~

504.3 Stairway access to roof. New buildings four or more stories above grade plane, except those with a roof slope greater than four units vertical in 12 units horizontal (33.3- percent slope), shall be provided with a stairway to the roof. When an exit enclosure is required by Section 1022, the stairway to the roof shall be located within an exit enclosure. Stairway access to the roof shall be in accordance with Section 1011.12 Stairway access to the roof shall be in accordance with Section 1011.12. Such stairway shall be marked at street and floor levels with a sign indicating that the stairway continues to the roof. Where roofs are used for roof gardens or for other purposes, stairways shall be provided as required for such occupancy classification.

511 Recreational vehicle, mobile home, and manufactured housing parks, sales lots, and storage lots. Recreational vehicle, mobile home, and manufactured housing parks, sales lots, and storage lots shall provide and maintain access roads and fire hydrants in accordance with Section 503 and 507.

EXCEPTION: Recreational vehicle parks located in remote areas shall be provided with protection and access roadways as required by the fire code official.

(e) **CHAPTER 6 BUILDING SERVICES AND SYSTEMS**

603.10 Carbon monoxide alarm and detector maintenance, inspection, and testing. The building owner shall maintain all carbon monoxide alarms and detectors in an operable condition at all times. Maintenance, inspection, and testing shall be performed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions or nationally recognized standards. A written record shall be maintained and shall be made available to the fire code official upon request.

(f) **CHAPTER 9 FIRE PROTECTION AND LIFE SAFETY**

903.2.5.1 General. An automatic sprinkler system shall be ~~installed in~~ provided throughout all buildings containing Group H occupancies.

903.2.6 Group I. An *automatic sprinkler system* shall be provided throughout buildings with a Group I *fire area*.

Exceptions:

1. An *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.2 shall be permitted in Group I-1, Condition 1 facilities.
2. An *automatic sprinkler system* is not required where Group I-4 day care facilities are at the *level of exit discharge* and where every room where care is provided has not fewer than one exterior *exit door*.
3. In buildings where Group I-4 day care is provided on levels other than the *level of exit discharge*, an *automatic sprinkler system* in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 shall be installed on the entire floor where care is provided, all floors between the level of care and the *level of exit discharge* and all floors below the *level of exit discharge* other than areas classified as an open parking garage.

4. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 shall be provided throughout all Group I-1 facilities that meet the federal Fair Housing Act definition of senior housing or housing for older persons.

903.2.8 Group R. An *automatic sprinkler system* installed in accordance with Section 903.3 shall be provided throughout all buildings with a Group R *fire area*.

Exceptions:

1. An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required for a Group R-3 fire area when in compliance with all of the following conditions:

1.2 The Group R-3 fire area does not exceed 3,600 square feet;

1.3 The Group R-3 dwelling is within 1,000 (304.8 m) feet of a hydrant having the required fire flow; and

1.4 The Group R-3 dwelling is on an approved *fire apparatus access road*.

2. An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required where *additions or alterations are made to existing one- and two-family dwellings or townhouses that do not have an automatic residential fire sprinkler system installed in accordance with sections R313.1 and R313.2 and constructed under the International Residential Code*.

903.2.8.3. An automatic sprinkler system installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 shall be provided throughout all Group R-2 occupancies that meet the Federal Fair Housing Act definition of senior housing or housing for older persons.

903.2.11.1.3 Basements. Where any portion of a basement is located more than 75 feet (22 860 mm) from openings required by Section 903.2.11.1, ~~or where walls, partitions or other obstructions are installed that restrict the application of water from hose streams,~~ the basement shall be equipped throughout with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

(g) **CHAPTER 12 ENERGY SYSTEMS**

1204.4 Ground-mounted photovoltaic panel systems. Ground-mounted photovoltaic panel systems shall comply with Section 1204.1 and this section. Setback requirements shall not apply to ground-mounted, free-standing photovoltaic arrays. A clear, brush-free area of 10 feet (3048 mm) shall be required and maintained around the array equipment for ground-mounted photovoltaic arrays. A fire break or other facility perimeter design acceptable to the fire code official shall be required to reduce or eliminate the interface risk from wildfire.

(h) **CHAPTER 31 TENTS, TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT STRUCTURES, AND OTHER MEMBRANE STRUCTURES**

3105.2 Approval. Temporary special event structures in excess of ~~400 square feet (37 m²)~~ 700 square feet (65 m²) shall not be erected, operated or maintained for any purpose without first obtaining approval and a permit from the fire code official. ~~and the building official.~~

3105.5 Required documents. The following documents shall be submitted to the fire code official ~~and building official~~ for review before a permit is approved:

(i) **CHAPTER 56 EXPLOSIVES AND FIREWORKS**

5601.1.3 Fireworks. The possession, manufacture, storage, sale, handling and use of fireworks are prohibited.

Exceptions:

1. Storage and handling of fireworks as allowed in Section 5604.
2. Manufacture, assembly and testing of fireworks as allowed in Section 5605.
3. The use of fireworks for fireworks displays as allowed in Section 5608.
4. The possession, storage, sale, handling and use of specific types of Division 1.4G fireworks where allowed by applicable laws, ordinances and regulations, provided that such fireworks and facilities comply with NFPA 1124, CPSC 16 CFR Parts 1500 and 1507, and DOTn 49 CFR Parts 100–185, as applicable for consumer fireworks.

5. The sale or use of permissible fireworks, as defined under section 12-28-101(8), as amended, of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

6. The sale of permissible fireworks from temporary stands in accordance with Adams County Development Standards and Regulations, Chapter 4, section 4-05-02-06, as amended.

(j) **CHAPTER 57 FLAMMABLE AND COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS**

5704.2.9.6.1 Locations where above-ground tanks are prohibited. Storage of Class I and II liquids in above-ground tanks outside of buildings is ~~prohibited~~ allowed when such storage complies with Sections 5704.2.9.6.1 through 5704.2.9.6.3. within the limits established by law as the limits of districts in which such storage is prohibited [JURISDICTION TO SPECIFY].

5707.1 General. On-demand mobile fueling operations that dispense Class I, II and III liquids into the fuel tanks of motor vehicles shall comply with Sections 5707.1 through 5707.6.3.

Exception: Fueling from an *approved* portable container in cases of an emergency or for personal use. and fueling and dispensing of flammable and combustible liquids on farms and construction sites as allowed by Section 5706.2.

(k) **APPENDIX D FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS**

Within Table D103.4 Requirements for Dead-End Fire Apparatus Access Roads, the minimum width of a dead-end fire apparatus access road that is between 501-750 feet in length is reduced to 20 feet from 26 feet.

**TABLE D103.4
REQUIREMENTS FOR DEAD-END
FIRE APPARATUS ACCESS ROADS**

LENGTH (feet)	WIDTH (feet)	TURNAROUNDS REQUIRED
0–150	20	None required
151–500	20	120-foot Hammerhead, 60-foot “Y” or 96-foot diameter cul-de-sac in accordance with Figure D103.1
501–750	26 <u>20</u>	120-foot Hammerhead, 60-foot “Y” or 96-foot diameter cul-de-sac in accordance with Figure D103.1
Over 750		Special approval required

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.